

in a different world "Returns by Death"
save her.



Re:ゼロ

Re: Life in a different world from zero

から始める異世界生活

長月達平

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Natsuki Rigel

IF CHAPTER – NATSUKI RIGEL

[The Birthday Rem and Setsubun are here again! With our powers combined, make these amazing days!]

The Feb. 2 (Determined by himself), the first signs of a storm forming in the Natsuki family. And as usual, which is developing is the head of the family, Natsuki Subaru.

[We'll do it as a family! Help me, really, Rigel!]

Subaru gets thumbs up, showing a dazzling, bright smile.

The young man sighs heavily by the pose of his father, with all a child serenity on his face.

Beautiful blue hair wearing her mother and menacing eyes of his father, Natsuki Rigel, with nine, regrets its very existence.

While trying to concentrate on the task, Subaru eagerly moving around, waiting for his answer,

[Dad is lost again ...]

[That was really hard! You skipped the previous “huh, it’s a little weird,” and went straight to “limit territory of the folly of my father!” Also, this time my application is not too crazy, do you? In any case, it is full of love!]

[That blinding love of yours is what frightens me. After living here for almost 10 years, even I know about it.]

With a cool look and an even colder tone, Rigel back down to a Subaru invasive. [First], he continues,

[Aside Birthday Mom, all I've got that thing Setsubun is a paralyzing trauma! Not only throw beans and eat sushi? What good that rare festival.]

[Hey, do not call him weird festival. Yes, on the surface it is a somewhat rare event, but as I said, there is some meaning and purpose in it. You could say that the Setsubun is what keeps our family safe from misfortune, after all.]

[What about all my suffering? What about **that** misfortune?]

[That is not unfortunately, that is called “Daily life”. You know, you’ll never get anywhere if you focus too much on all the bad things in your life. Your stress will also increase.]

[Do not say it like it was my fault! I’m just a victim of the absurdities of my fucking dad!]

Rigel hits the table and flies. Fuming, he points out the window with a finger.

In front of his house, many volates with the header [Come celebrate Setsubun!] Are stuck in a magical street lamp. They list the date and time, details, and the name of organizador—,

[This rare festival, you’re the one who is organizing it into some bizarre event the size of the city, right? Even your name is listed as the organizer I said, I thought I would die of shame at school today.]

[Well, it’s a natural extension of my talent as a producer. Come on , now you can proudly show off something like “My dad is the **HERO**my family!”]

[Perhaps if the event is not about breaking beans on my face!]

Yet another wheel Rigel ripping a nearby wall. He points to the section below “Practice”, “Purpose”, “Details”, and the event date, February 3 (which he himself decided). According to the steering wheel, [Oni] run around the neighborhood being chased all day. And acting as its representative, shall [Natsuki Rigel].

[Do not bandage your child without permission! What are you, a Oni!]

[You are a Oni, and so is my wife. Well, I can not let Rem do something crazy like that. That’s why I swallow my tears and send my beloved son ...]

[What are you, an Oni! No, *definitely* you are an Oni!]

[Calm down. It is not as if everyone is out looking for blood. Also, maybe you are the representative, but there will be another Oni. I will also be helping.]

Viewing fearless and unflinching face Subaru, Rigel gives up.

First, they have already fought this battle countless times since announcing of the event. In each time, Rigel was completely defeated, and the day of the event glided closer. Now, there was simply no place to run or turn back. Although his role was forced on him, Rigel felt compelled to comply.

— Such is the harsh lifestyle of reasonable Natsuki Rigel.

[An event is an event. Just take it like a man. But is not that what he wanted to talk.]

[... .The Mom's birthday, right?]

[Exactly.]

While Subaru snaps his fingers, Rigel away.

By some twist of fate, the frantic Setsubun and the birthday of his mother, Natsuki Rem, are only a day apart.

—Celebrando Grandly with her mother on the first day, after trying out in hell. This was its annual program.

[We can not properly celebrate Mom's birthday so ...]

[Not deny that is a full program, but enjoyed two great days in a row is a blessing. Come on , is more optimistic. **THINK POSITIVE!**]

[We can not properly celebrate Mom's birthday so ...]

[Huh? Deja vu?]

Deja vu my ass.

Non important speech of his father, Rigel's response remains the same, just the same syllables.

[I know these quite tense Setsubun. But that's no reason to play down the Rem birthday. Only comes once a year, you know. ¿Rem will not be sad? So let's change of attitude here. I know you can do it.]

[-. —. ———.———— Ahh.]

Rigel takes a moment to accept.

But it will not get more arguing, and discourage Subaru is the limit of the impossible. The only choice is to access Rigel obediently.

[So you want to talk about Mom's birthday, right?]

[Right. Veras, this year is a pretty big event. They will be 10 years since we got married, after all. We actually have no specific day for the anniversary, so I wanted to celebrate with his birthday. That's why I decided to do something special this year.]

[Well, that sounds good to me? Honestly, Mom probably be happy no matter what he does Dad. But for once, I'm on board on this.]

[Right? So here's what it is.]

With the smile of a child intriguing, Subaru beckons for your child approaches.

Rigel frowns, a sinister feeling hanging over him. But while hesitates, Subaru shake it again and again. Eventually, a reluctant Rigel sighs as he pays attention.

[For our tenth anniversary, seriously I have prepared something really special. And orders it too, so do not worry about it.]

[... Hmm, well, okay.]

[I have been continually building my secret hiding place, especially for this day. And the result is something to behold. Listen and be amazed – ¡Es a precious stone]!

[–Wohh, A precious stone.]

[Be amazed], his father said. But the gift Subaru actually resulted in an incredible respect, Rigel was doubly amazed.

As a rule, no matter what you do, Subaru always complicates things and makes a great and chaotic mess. But for once, that does not seem to be the case.

[A gemstone, huh ...]

Looking back, the mother of Rigel, Natsuki Rem, not much fixes itself. This was not a matter of family finances, but rather, a matter of character.

Rigel has always been secretly proud of his extremely beautiful mother. But his reluctance to wear jewelry and fancy clothes was a source of their discontent.

They were not necessarily poor. In particular, she simply does not care to adorn herself. And yet, without any consideration of dignity or honor, Rem this unashamedly attached to Subaru. Unfortunately for Rigel, if a present of Subaru, Rem always accepted. Consequently, Rigel immediately approves a gemstone as a gift from his father to his mother.

[That's really great! Hell, you can really do it if you try!]

[Yeah that's right. I'm the type who just need to try and ... huh? What the hell? That does not sound like you're the father here?]

[Forget this. What is important is the gift for mom, right?]

[Oh, yeah, right. Yes of course! What matters is the gift of Rem. Well, I knew I had the right idea, but I'm sure now that you have approved it.]

With a lively clash of fists, Subaru and Rigel nod to each other.

Rigel then wonders about the gift from his mother, especially with questionable tastes of his father.

[So, how is the gemstone? Knowing Dad, I worry that you will find some rare craftsman to do it.]

[OMG! My Capital bobbed in seconds ...! But about that. Now we're getting to the important part. Listen carefully, my son.]

[Ughh ...]

Rigel complains about the very serious face of his father.

When Subaru has this serious look, and joy in his voice disappears, one must be extremely careful. You spit something definitely annoying – this was the “confidence” cultivated between Rigel and his father for the last ten years. And once again, this trust will not be betrayed.

While a fearful Rigel wrinkle his face into a grimace, Subaru mumbles,

[Merchant that carries –The Gemstone Rem, his carriage dragon got into trouble and has not arrived. There is talk that perhaps even he could have returned, so I'm going out to get it myself.]

[¿... What you will achieve by the end of the day?]

[Well, I'll go after them at full speed, of course. Q: But, honestly, I'm not sure.]

Turning fingers, eyes falling voice down. Seeing his father in this way, Rigel hits his forehead,

[If you're so worried, why do not you forget gemstone for now? Apart birthday gift, if Dad is not here, mom will be much sadder.]

[Already. I know that, but ... I have to give your gift today. Otherwise there would be no point, I think.]

[That's just ...]

Selfish, he meant, but the words of Rigel stopped short.

Subaru his head, a sad and bittersweet smile on his face scratched.

But beneath that, a vortex of hard and indescribable feelings swirling around. Just looking at him, Rigel feel you sweep and throw away.

From the depths of the soul of Subaru, hidden with the greatest care, Rigel could feel the faint traces of an important *thing* .

—was The irreplaceable bond that his parents shared.

[—]

Interrupting would be wrong , decides Rigel.

With a sigh, he also scratching his head,

[So, after revealing all this, what do you want from me?]

[I listen, Rigel!]

[Practically you're forcing me! Spit it out or'll look like some scum who can not read the atmosphere!]

[I'm saved!]

With the reluctant acceptance of Rigel, a Subaru entranced taking hands, swinging them up and down, a ladro to another.

Rigel frowns, but Subaru just keep smiling,

[I'm going out to retrieve the precious stone. I'll definitely be back in time, but you need to give some excuses to Rem while I'm gone. Even if you screw up , do

not talk about ergalo. Ruin the *surprise* .]

[... If Dad is not around to Mom's birthday, I think that will be more than enough *surprise* .]

[Even so. Anyway, I'll go now. The rest is up to you!]

After forcing their confidence in Rigel, Subaru takes your luggage and takes to the front door.

Like the wind, furiously down the street, going to the gate of the city-from there, he'll probably ride a dragon land and anger after the jeweler.

[Are you going to get it done on time?]

Hardly, according to Subaru. But Rigel estimated to be more likely to fail to succeed.

In his absence, it depends on Rigel defend the family Natsuki devastation. But with the endless devotion to her husband Rem, Rigel can already see his mother shaking and trembling.

[¿Va-, is going to be a bloodbath ...?]

Trembling with fear, Rigel eagerly waits for his mother to return, all the time praying that your father gets home even a second before.

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Fortunately, Rem reaction was not near Rigel imagine the catastrophe. Compared with the worst case scenario, she was quite calm.

[So you see, there were some problems at work or something. So he needed to Dad about, you know, really depend on it and ... Wait, is that correct? It's true, right? Well, assuming it's true, apparently he went to help, I think.]

[Why it is that Rigel sounds so insecure? Actually, almost 10 years old, you should at least take care of the house and spend the messages properly. Honestly.]

Coming back from shopping and local neighborhood meeting, Rem is received at home by his son. No time to prepare, Rigel awkwardly explains the absence of Subaru. Fortunately, Rem particularly not doubt him or pouting.

But on the other hand, clearly disapproves of his malhecha explanation. Despite appearances, actually it is a pretty despot Rem mother. It is a well-kept family secret that Subaru is indeed the most lenient of the two.

[So Subaru-kun had to go outside ... It's a pity. For lunch today, Rem planned to do all the favorite dishes of Subaru-kun.]

Holding shopping bags, a slightly lonely Rem looks of drooping eyebrows. Suddenly, a sense of duty burns and rages within Rigel. No matter what, you can not let your mother this sad. As a man, Rigel gives all of himself at all, even forced him roles. You could say that his true nature that tragedy.

[Favourite Dad, huh. That's a shame ... wait, did not you say the same thing yesterday? I feel I ate all your favorite yesterday too ...]

[If. And tomorrow, the day after, and the day before yesterday and even the day before that, all the favorite dishes are the Subaru-kun.]

[Apart from the home kitchen, That is an extreme favoritism!]

Days go, days come, Rem dedicates each meal like Subaru. Understanding this, Rigel can not help but mourn.

[No, no.] Rem answered, shaking his head,

[Please do not worry. Favourite Subaru-kun are also favorites of Rigel and Spica. After all, Rem ever done something that you two do not like me?]

[Well ... now that I think about, I guess not. But is it possible that a whole family likes the same things? I mean, not everyone has different tastes?]

[That's because when Rigel was just a baby, Rem murmured interminably favorites Subaru-kun while he slept, brainwashing that he liked him too.]

[?! Please tell me you're kidding !?]

[Yes, that was just a joke. Rigel should be careful not to fall into things how are you.]

Rigel's eyes are wide open like saucers by this devastating truth.

Seeing him, a smiling playfully sticks out his tongue Rem.

Then, smoothing her long blue hair,

[Rem calls favorites Subaru-kun, but the truth is that Subaru-kun always says “Delicioso” Rem’s kitchen. So Rigel need not worry.]

[Well OK. But that does not make your efforts a little useless ...]

[Not at all. Subaru-kun always says “Delicious” but when you really love something, his tone changes, and her cheeks move a little different. They are cuter than usual. Fufu.]

Rigel can not decide whether the detailed observations of her mother make lovely, or a little frightening. He let out a vague and forced laughter as Rem smiles full of joy.

Then she passes Spica and carries supplies to the kitchen.

[Seriously, your older brother is drowning in anxiety around here, but you’re so carefree as always, huh.]

[¿Aaaaahh—?]

[Do not tell me “Aaaahh”, you ... Ohh, you’re too cute, Spica!]

With the silly condition of an older brother, Rigel rubbed her cheeks with Spica. While she is innocent about the world, Spica still loves her love and affection. She laughs and smiles as if tickled. After savoring the smile of Spica in the depths of his heart, Rigel leads to the kitchen. Before them, Rem accommodating the provisions of the day.

[So then, Rigel. When your father said to be home?]

[Oh, uhh ... well, I think he said maybe it would take a while? But he said he will do his best to return quickly. Because, you know, he has a reason to hurry today.]

Rigel immediately regrets saying too much. The trip birthday Subaru and Rem are topics that he desperately needed to avoid. And yet, with every awkward step, a stupefied Rigel digs his grave deeper and deeper. Unfortunately, unaware of his personality “I can not tell a lie to save my life,” Rigel quickly covers her mouth.

Imitating him, Spica gets her small hands in his mouth. So cute. But this is no

time to worship.

[Thus. "It could take a while" ...]

[-]

Without turning, Rem continues wrapping the shelf. But Rigel looks with concern. His voice is the same as always, but perhaps actually is on the verge of tears ready to fall at his feet in shock.

In the minds of Rigel, Rem is a strong woman, but has some very fatal weaknesses. And those weaknesses invariantly have to do with Natsuki Subaru.

First, by his words, probably already you know that Subaru is preparing for her birthday. Unlike Subaru, unusually perceptive and Rem is actually able to read the atmosphere. Rigel wonders if there really is some point to all this disappointment.

[Umm, Mom, listen ...]

The more you think, the more wears away her nerves.

Honest to a fault, Rigel resolution becomes more weaker.

[It's about Dad but, well, do not think too badly of him.]

[? – It is not that obvious? Rem never think ill of Subaru-kun to go to work. He is working hard for his family, after all.]

[But hey, this time the situation is a little different, you know?]

[... Ahh, as it expected. Rigel was also worried about it.]

Turning around, Rem find your child with an uneasy expression on his face. She smiles back warmly, as if he understood everything just that look. Sensing that has been completely discovered, Rigel silently apologizes to Subaru.

But and think that in just thirty minutes, had already tasted defeat.

Shamefully coping with defeat, Rigel realizes he no longer needs to lie. The blame for keeping secrets so that the family does not fade, the idea of coming clean and lightens your heart.

In the end, you just have to be honest. There is no hint of doubt.

[Please do not worry. Rem is also a little uneasy. But if it comes to Subaru-kun, there's nothing to worry about.]

[I do not know if I believe in it so strongly, but ... yeah, I guess that's okay.]

[If. Rem not exactly understand your intentions, but she did her best to prepare for Subaru instructions. For anything that Subaru-kun Rem entrust this task is a sign of his faith in her. Rem feel inspired to give their best.]

[... .huh?]

Clenching his hands, Rem makes a pose of value.

A Rigel secretly likes this childish habit of his, but right now, encourages a sense of anxiety in him.

Their conversation, seems to flow, and still not flowing.

[Wait a second?] Rigel question, his head full of confusion,

[What are you talking about?]

[? – Well of course, preparations for the event Setsubun tomorrow. Rigel will be representing the Oni out of control, after all. A proper attire ... Subaru-kun Rem asked to prepare one for Rigel. Rem was hoping Subaru-kun could review the final result.]

[– **AHH DEMONS! I knew it !**]

With both sides of the conversation finally intertwining, Rigel fault arises again with full force. Realizing that anything has told achieved through, you can not help but mourn in frustration.

Spica, still held carefully in his arms, looking at the wrinkled and anguished face of his brother. [Awuu-] she stammers, imitating him while laughing so happily.

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— A few minutes later, standing in front of a mirror this Natsuki Rigel, newborn.

[As expected, the criterion of Subaru-kun was perfect. Rem is so moved.]

[Upaa ~ ♪]

Rem nods, deeply satisfied with her work. In his arms, Spica looks at his brother with a pair of sparkling eyes.

Being posing before them is a perfect reproduction.

[—]

Pants made with a yellow cloth, flecked with black rays that descend into vertical strips. For the top, vest cooked with the same yellow cloth. At his feet, a specialty of Kararagi, wooden shoes.

In his hands, he wields a stick metallic appearance made paper mache. In his mouth, a pair of false teeth borrowed from the costume shop. And with a little wilder than usual tousled hair, Rigel was the picture of a Oni.

With his son, perfectly embodying the classic style of a Oni, one Rem amazed looks admiringly. Meanwhile, Spica eyes brimming with heartfelt admiration for the magnificent form of his brother.

With these two staring at him, the newborn Rigel is studied himself in the mirror,

[God! This is horrible!]

[God is saying Rigel What? Does this suit does not fit perfectly with drawing Subaru-kun? For good work, Rem is ready to sing his own praises.]

[Is this a Oni? I look more like a barbarian! Mom, as one of the last surviving Oni, this suit does not bother you?]

[No matter how the world perceives the Oni, that did not control the lives of Rem and Rigel. It will be OK. With that said, I brought so overwhelming ... especially those eyes, so wonderfully like those of a Oni.]

[That's the only part that is real!]

Your parents may have given this body, but be praised by those same parents just annoys.

His unexpected reaction annoys Rem, but in all honesty, the most annoying is Rigel. Marveling at his stirring a cachetona Spica wheel and falls with laughter, his voice ringing like bells throughout the house.

A vest and pants Oni Oni. A stick Oni Oni and eyes. Truly a work of perfection.

[No not yet. For the finishing touch, please get your horn. With this, the suit is complete.]

[Es-e, that's none of your business ...]

[It is not entirely true. Rigel is the son of Rem. And when it comes to Rigel. Rem thinking is always serious and sincere.]

For doubtful eyes Rigel, Rem responds with greater seriousness. Captivated, a reluctant Rigel focuses its senses on his forehead.

As a successor to the bloodline Oni, Rigel has Oni clan horn. However, instead of the usual pair, one horn out of his forehead. According to Rem, this was probably due to blood Oni half of Rigel. Frankly, it did not bother him too much. But nevertheless—,

[By only be able to give Rigel a single horn, Rem sorry.]

The apology from his mother long ago. In the minds of Rigel, it remains vividly clear. His face apologetic, regretful voice that he could never forget.

But Rigel does not care how many horns have. Whether there is one or two, a horn is a horn. When it out, your body feels light and easy to move. Rigel considered a true blessing.

[Yes thank you very much.]

When he answered this way, her mother into a lonely, bittersweet smile. Occasionally, helplessly, Rigel remember that moment. But since then, he never could find the courage to speak again on the subject. They never spoke of his horn again.

Supposedly, his mother also has only one horn. Rigel wonders if she never suffered because of it.

[-]

Putting aside those thoughts, Rigel focuses on awakening his blood Oni. His forehead, white, pointy end of a horn begins to emerge.

A strong feeling running through his forehead like a thunderbolt. As it flows to

the rest of your body, Rigel feel your overflowing with power limbs. At the same time, a powerful impulse deep throbbing in his chest. According to his mother, this was the natural instinct of battle of the Oni. Instincts resound louder and louder, assailing his mind.

While he enjoys this strange but exhilarating feeling, Rigel contains the equally powerful battle instincts.

In the mirror, its appearance has been a clear change. Confirming the growth of its horn, Rigel turns to Rem and Spica—,

[How is it?]

[Pfft ... ES is very ... truly splendid, splendid, Rigelpfft.]

[?! Can you return my concern !?]

Turning around, Rigel finds his mother holding back his laughter. After witnessing perfection Oni classic style, Rem cheeks are red and fluffed. She falls to her knees in a fit of laughter.

Only time before, Rigel was full of anxiety and concern.

But with growing your own horn making him a laughingstock, he realized it was wasted time and energy.

While his shoulders loose Rigel tired, Rem somehow manages to get up again. Recovering a single tear clean,

[En-in any case, Rem thinks it's wonderful. Subaru-kun surely be satisfied and all participants will love it too. —pfft.]

[Well, I will make you all repent of Oni represents pick me! For the first time in my life, I shall loose these savage fighting instincts sleeping within me—]

[Of course, Rigel is forbidden to cause damage to anyone. If he resorts to violence, Rem take responsibility and submit them personally. Is that clear?]

[For the first time in my life, shall break these wild instincts *pee*/sleeping inside me—]

Adjusting the wording very slightly, Rigel corrected his statement. Seeing that a satisfied Rem nods again, he sighs.

[Looking in the mirror, I can see why you like me, but ... Does this really okay? Does not this just make the Oni look bad?]

[As a race, almost all have perished Oni. Even if someone insults us at this point, there is no point worrying about it. Incidentally, the stage for this event has to Rigel as the head of a fierce and sanguinary tribe Oni. If citizens fail to repel us, the tribe instigate a heinous mass murder, painting the ruins of the city in a real scene from hell ... it is the planned development.]

[You really are barbarians! Even they need to be Onis?]

[The Oni are excellent to play the role of villain ... is what Subaru-kun said.]

Although indifferent to the dignity of Oni, Rem seems reluctant to continue their conversation.

The nearby clan eradication of Oni is common knowledge. And yet, Rigel has never heard Rem talk about any real detail.

Thinking back, he has never heard much about the romance of his parents and the past either.

[... Well, to hear about it anyway I just wore out.]

Sometimes, their parents-Subaru and Rem, have this strange feeling, like something was off or out of place.

Whether helping with homework, or celebrating foreign festivals, residues knowledge of some unknown place arise from time to time. There were all kinds of mysterious unsolved.

Each time you check out the last of his parents, Rigel feels strangely angry. Anyway, between her parents, there were traces of an education they could not hide.

Rigel assumed that these two received a respectable education from somewhere. As his son, thought fills him with pride. And yet, watching their parents hide their secret at all costs, this pride is entangled with resentment.

Rigel wonders if one day be able to hear your story.

[But hey, I doubt they have me in the near future ...]

Reaching this conclusion, Rigel put aside their suspicions by now, unaware of the internal shock of her son. Rem her hands together with an enthusiastic [Now],

[Take away the suit and get ready for tomorrow. It is a pity that Subaru-kun could not revise it personally, but Rem leave that for tomorrow as something to look forward.]

[I'm really going to run around in this morning ...]

[Other Oni apart from Rigel will be using the same computer, so there's nothing you'll be embarrassed. Although the only Oni Real will Rigel, of course.]

While pulling his arms outside the vest and change his pants, Rigel is anxious for tomorrow's event. Wanting to encourage him, Rem gently massaging the shoulders of her beloved son,

[It will be OK. After all, Rigel is the proud son of Rem and Subaru-kun.]

[Well, son of Mom's fine, but having to be the son of Dad is ...]

[In any case, that part should be a source of relief. Moreover, Rem blood flowing in the veins of Rigel, Rem is concerned more and more that caused him nothing but trouble ...]

[Are you infravalorándote yourself here?]

It's a bad habit of his. Rem Subaru loves and looks too good a light. And yet, while not quite self-criticism, she is undeniably too hard on herself.

[I do not know how convincing is coming from me, but do not think Mom's blood ever caused me any problems. As I said, Dad is the blood that has me worried. Apart from these scary eyes, I feel that I'm inheriting their evil.]

[Those are wonderful.]

[But sometimes girls cry just looking at me ...]

[They're just too young to understand the charm of a guy.]

That stubborn and unwavering faith in others, why is so weak when it comes to herself?

In fact, Rigel suspect Subaru has the same defect. But rarely sees weakness in

his father, so I can not compare very well.

Putting aside those thoughts for now,

[As your child honestly I have no idea because you're so insecure ... I guess I just have to prove it?]

[Huh?]

[In the event tomorrow, if I perform perfectly, completely and without a single incident ... then as the son of Mom and Dad, I will make them see that there is nothing to worry about.]

[-]

[It has been bugging me for a while. So I've always wanted to try it.]

Looking back to his mother with wide eyes, Rigel makes his bold statement.

As Natsuki Subaru loving wife and loving mother of Natsuki Natsuki Rigel and Spica, Natsuki Rem is a woman who lacks self-confidence. Even in the minds of Rigel, no other woman is so say respect.

[Always're worried that you can not fit in with dad, but I will show that not even the smallest and slightest truth!]

[Rigel]

[My ... My Mom is the best mom in the world. Just I wanted you to see it.]

Uncertain, still living so happily, but sometimes, returning to insecurity. Rigel has watched his mother all this time, wishing to live prouder.

Just as she loves her husband and her son and daughter, Rigel would like to be loved herself.

For Subaru and Rigel, Spica and similarly, everyone loves Rem.

Because just like Rem loves them, they all love Rem.

[Contempt for my Mom, do not let anyone do that, not even my mom.]

Burning with a feverish vigor, Rigel ends his statement. But suddenly, you're stuck in an awkward situation.

*What the hell am I saying with **this** aspect?*

Having removed the vest and pants Oni, he is standing there with nothing but his underwear. Thus, no matter how serious it is, it will only be treated as a comedy show.

After all this time, finally I drive all that meant. But it must have been a better time to do so.

[Ahh, uhm, right now, that was ...]

A “mistake” he meant, but before he could,

[-]

Suddenly, the head of Rigel this tangled between two extended arms and abruptly embraced.

A tender feeling envelops his head as one Rigel puzzled moves his eyes in confusion. Quickly he realizes that this is the embrace of his mother.

Listening so close to the intense pounding heart of his mother, Rigel’s face immediately turns red.

He is at the age where being pampered by his mother is incredibly embarrassing. The days when she held it and should have happened long ago. He instinctively wants to get away. But nevertheless—.

[...Mom?]

[—]

Feeling the tremor and tremor of the cradling arms, Rigel is frozen in place. He calls his mother, but Rem does not answer. That’s when he realizes,

[..... ..uu, Fu, eh-]

The sound of crying is with your ears.

But it is not known crying her adorable little sister. While it is quite similar, this cry comes from someone who mourn Rigel has never seen before.

Realizing quickly from its owner, Rigel white and pale sets.

What if something unimaginably said was hurtful. His energetic and passionate words, if they hurt them, would be a mistake that could never undo Rigel.

Frantically twisting your brain to find the right words to say.

But he soon realizes that all his worry and concern was unnecessary.

[—-]

Shaking his head, a small Rem firmly embracing her son even smaller. The excitement contained within those trembling arms, was not disgust nor pity. There was only loving affection.

Cherished by this condition, Rigel is the first to understand.

Returning the embrace of his sobbing mother, Rigel caressing her back.

[Do not cry, Mom ... If Dad sees me killed.]

[... That is not possible.]

[Why?]

[Rem so happy, yet the tears will not stop going out.]

And to think that the mother has known for almost ten years is, unexpectedly, such a crybaby. Rigel sighs.

Although supported by his mother, Spica looks at her mother and brother hugging, bowing his head. And then Spica, her small hand autumn color, as if imitating his brother, begins to caress the back of his mother.

Slowly, slowly, with a tenderness that could soothe even the most crybaby.

-while Tears of happiness fall from the eyes of his mother, the brothers continue stroking his back.

※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※ ※

—at The end, Subaru, who went to recover the precious stone, no return while Rigel and Spica was awake.

[Tomorrow will be a busy day, so Rigel should go to sleep now. Do not stay up too late because tomorrow we begin early.]

His mother spoke in his usual tone, as if he had forgotten how strong she had cried. However, note that its expression Rigel had somehow changed yesterday.

In the end, they never talked about his birthday, but at least kept his promise

with Subaru. Rigel decides to leave the rest to his father.

First, he had no need to say a single word again embarrassing value. After all, just he had to say the equivalent of 10 full years.

[—]

Looking at the magic crystal, Rigel countdown the remaining minutes on his fingers. ¿Subaru come home in time for the birthday Rem? In the experience of Rigel, Subaru anger to absurd extremes to prove their love and devotion to his wife. Probably that's why. Even with just ten minutes remaining, Rigel is not at all worried.

At the end—,

[—Rem, I'm home! I'm sorry to be late!]

Subaru falls and rolls inside the house, just 5 minutes before the date changes. — Although technically only had 5 minutes left to celebrate, yet he managed to keep his promise.

[Subaru-kun, welcome home. But please do not make much noise, Rigel and Spica are already asleep. It would not be good to wake them up.]

[Ahh, sorry, sorry. I was just in a hurry ...]

The sound of Rem welcoming, after scolding Subaru, and the sound of a Subaru apologetically nervous again. From his futon, Rigel hear footsteps inside your home.

Since I went to bed a few hours ago, Rigel has only been bobbing and turning. But with this last concern erased from his mind, finally you feel sleepy.

Considering the event tomorrow, just like her mother, really sleep he should already said. Yesterday's event was afraid for Setsubun, more despairing as he approached. But now, you can expect Rigel therefore just a little. It must be the promise he made with his mother—

[Rem, really sorry for being late, but there is something else I have to say. The job that was out today was more like a personal request. One really important.]

[A personal request, right? Was there something special happening?]

[There is. Although probably do not think it's too special.]

Tilting her head, Rem honestly seems to have a clue. Despising herself, another bad habit of his. Frankly, hide the gift she could have been totally unnecessary.

That's just how indifferent is Rem to herself.

[Only two minutes, but here, this tomato. – It's your birthday].

[Birthday ... ah.]

For Subaru's harsh words, the animated voice Rem pauses abruptly.

Finally understanding, he finds two conflicting emotions.

Uncertain which embrace, she stays in bewilderment.

[-]

Rigel assumed that his mother's eyes are moving in confusion while his father gives something. And with Rem even annoyed, probably Subaru who open the small box in his hand outstretched. At the sound of the box opening, Rem look inside and let out a small gasp.

[This is...]

[A garnet ... at least I think that's how you call it. I have been continually building my hiding secret all for this day. But seriously, I was so worried. Although it is only meaningful if I did today, that carriage dragon began to back halfway.]

[-]

While Subaru recounts his trials, Rem remains speechless. Noticing his silence, smiling ironically Subaru barely scratches his head.

[I wanted to say something final, something permanent. We've been together for ten years now. And with your birthday and Setsubun, I thought this would be an appropriate way to ask, "once again, please take care of me."]

[... Really okay to Rem-]

[Hm?]

[That is so of blessed Rem, are you really okay?]

Hearing her voice trembling, Rigel moves, his tired eyes now look to them. His parents are in the adjoining room, but Rigel can see them through the sliding door ajar. Subaru and Rem are to each other, eyes fixed on Rem red stone in his hands.

[Rem's birthday ... She forgot it completely. Because ... Rem always believed that she had no right to celebrate.]

[-]

[Rem left behind Nee-sama, who was born on the same day ... although she knew it was a terrible thing, but ...]

[Yes, tell me whatever. You will listen.]

[-N. Rem was always worried if allowed to be so happy.]

That sobbing voice, the same as Rigel hear only a few hours ago. However, this time, you feel tense with deep guilt.

And from the mouth of his mother, the surprise of an unknown word.

"Nee-sama". But what really surprises Rigel is that, beyond what I imagine, the past of their parents is heavy and painful.

[I not tell you to stop feeling guilty. I know that is not possible. Because I feel the same.]

[... If.]

[But even so, I do not think that anything and everything has been bad. Although we gave up, even if we run, things got after fleeing, I do not think badly of them too.]

[... If.]

Unimaginable for his usual tone, voice Subaru truly serious impacts Rigel. And while Rem nods again and again, his voice carries something different too. Independent of its reliability as a mother, different from the extreme love and showing favoritism to her husband.

Right now, they were merely a man and a woman, sharing their precious bond and memories.

[Getting to this city, and have to Rigel and Spica. After all kinds of things happen, now you and I are here. All this is connected to our happiness. I wanted to prove that and shape it. And that's this gemstone.]

[-]

[It is too painful for you to accept it, will not ask you to use this precious stone immediately. I did not even mind if you put it away somewhere. But please, do not discard. I feel it's the only thing we should not do.]

Pleading, Subaru takes a step toward Rem speechless.

Carefully reaching his arms, he embraces Rem and pull toward him. Hugging her tightly, Subaru tenderly strokes his head.

As he does, Rem buries his face in his chest and says softly.

[Today, Rigel told Rem.]

[If?]

[He said Rem is ... The best mum in the world.]

[Yes, did not you know?]

[... If, Rem did not know.]

Rem carefully repeats the words of Rigel, but Subaru respond quickly again, as if they were the most obvious words in the world.

Rem wrinkle his face and smiles for their immediate response.

The narrow corners of her eyes, the tears fall, traveling through her white cheeks. And with these tears, the indescribable feeling born of the conflict of guilt and happiness, Rem finally feels away.

[Rem said it once before. He was relieved after Rigel was born.]

[-]

[Because between Subaru-kun and Rem, this was a definitive bond, one that always exist. When Rem realized that we were a family now, she was so happy and relieved. Rem is a nasty girl, right?]

[Unpleasant my ass, that's normal. Wife despise me, do not let anyone do that,

not even my wife.]

[... Fufu. Rigel told Rem exactly the same.]

[Huh? Is that boy is calling his wife Rem? That's a bit Mama-con, and a little gross ...]

[Do not. But if Rigel said Spica was his girlfriend.]

[That child is a model SISCON.]

While they usurp their honor and dignity, Rigel can only remain silent, surrendering himself to this humiliation.

The two exchanged smiles for a while. Rem After taking a deep breath, his face upward Subaru chest,

[Rem thought she was loving one-sided love, I was just loving their own volition. Rem had no confidence, so she did her best to prove to Subaru-kun that she loves him.]

[That's reaaaalmente fool.]

[Yes, it is really silly. –Rigel Also said that.]

Rem makes a delicate smile, then he holds your breath.

Putting his hands on Subaru's chest, gently pulls back, a comfortable space now between them,

[Subaru-kun, thank you for this birthday .– Will it put Rem?]

[... Safe? No need to rush, you know?]

[Do not. Unlike. Rem always had this goal from the beginning. That's why she took this award as proof.]

[Proof?]

[–Prueba That Rem has the best husband in the world, the best son in the world and the best daughter in the world. And that she is the happiest woman in the world.]

Bravely, the Rem who had always lacked confidence, and announced in a voice full of pride expression.

His words embarrassed Subaru even for a moment, but quickly sends a grin.

Rem inflates his chest with pride. Seeing his wife as well, Subaru nods with satisfaction. In the palm of your hands is the gemstone, embedded in a beautiful pendant. Subaru extends to taking it,

[I love you, Rem]

[Yes, Rem loves you, Subaru-kun.]

With the pendant around her neck, red gem resting on the chest Rem, loving and gently glowing.

Looking at him, the two laugh together. And then, slowly, closer their rostros—,

[Ah, gee.]

Having seen enough, Rigel gives them back.

Flirt watching their parents would just nervous, and would be boring too.

Today also, his mother and father live intimately and happily spending their time. It was more than enough.

Now and forever, this is the daily life within the family Natsuki.

[-]

Even lying, Rigel looks Spica bed, located in the same room. In the “cradle” of Subaru, which supposedly prevents falls out of bed, Spica rests quietly. As if reading the atmosphere, she has not cried a little, leaving no obstacles to the appointment of their parents.

Today is the birthday of his mother, although probably change the date. However, today or tomorrow is the Setsubun.

appearance-though is a bit strange, is the day the Oni takes the spotlight.

Although for his mother, either yesterday, today or tomorrow, she is the main character everywhere.

That’s why he put all of himself and make her feel loved.

For the moment—,

[I guess now I must prove I am the best son in the world in the event of

Setsubun tomorrow.]

With the rod raised much higher, Rigel hides in his futon and sighs.

But compared to his usual depressed sigh, which lacks enthusiasm and motivation, this is a very different sigh.

Morrow, under a bright sunny sky, Rigel better interpret the role of Oni. With a sense of determination, he finally goes to sleep.